

RN98131D1

Serial number: 10/781,064

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

It is asserted that these amendments do not add new matter and are supported by the specification and claims as originally filed. Entry of these claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 12-14, 16 and 18-20 have been rejected.

Claims 13, 14, and 17-20 have been amended.

Claims 12 and 16 are cancelled.

Claims 13, 14, and 17-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 16 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 16 has been cancelled and its content merged with amended claim 20. In the meantime, the phrase "of formula (XII)" has been cancelled from amended claim 20, and, thus, from dependent claims 18 and 19.

For these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner now reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 16 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The rejection of claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being obvious over Priou et al., U.S. Patent # 5, 703, 137 is now moot because those claims have been cancelled.

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Objected and allowable claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim 12. Amended claims 13 and 14 are now dependent upon amended claim 17.

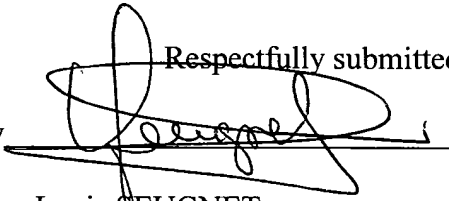
Objected and allowable claim 20 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim 16 and the objection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph has been addressed as set forth above.

The amendment does not create new issues, as it corresponds to the Examiner's requirement, and/or provides only grammatical improvement of the wording.

In view of the preceding remarks, it is asserted that the patent application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any question concerning these remarks that would further advance prosecution of the claims to allowance, the examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned agent at (609) 860-4180. A notice of allowance is respectfully solicited.

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**Rhodia Inc.-Legal Department
8 CEDAR BROOK DRIVE
CN 7500, CRANBURY, NJ 08512-7500**

Respectfully submitted,

By _____
Jean-Louis SEUGNET
Reg. No. L0088

Tel : (609) 860-4180
Fax: (609) 860-0503